

## **Trinity Church of Northborough** **The Ten Communication Commandments**

- I. **Thou shalt not** employ indirect means in expressing concerns; rather, **thou shalt** speak directly with the person with whom a concern exists.
- II. **Thou shalt not** communicate in a disrespectful manner; rather, **thou shalt** consider the feelings of others.
- III. **Thou shalt not** remain silent on important matters; rather, **thou shalt** express thoughts, feelings, and needs in an appropriate manner.
- IV. **Thou shalt not** protest a person's choice of expression; rather, **thou shalt** explain the effect of the hurtful statements on the hearer.
- V. **Thou shalt not** be overly engaged in vague communications; rather, **thou shalt** focus on the present reality.
- VI. **Thou shalt not** maintain a closed mind; rather, **thou shalt** give adequate attention to a variety of ideas.
- VII. **Thou shalt not** overlook the need for appropriate behavior; rather, **thou shalt** practice *holy manners for a faith community*.
- VIII. **Thou shalt not** look for weaknesses in others; rather, **thou shalt** look for the good and seek Christ in others.
- IX. **Thou shalt not** ignore the consequences of thy comments and actions; rather, **thou shalt** be responsible for thy words and behaviors.
- X. **Thou shalt not** be downcast in thy contact with others; rather, **thou shalt** endeavor to reflect cheer and the optimism which underlies our faith.

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